

**TOWN OF DIGHTON
BOARDS OF SELECTMEN/HEALTH
APRIL 11, 2012**

E. Bud Whalon called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Present: E. Bud Whalon, Thomas J. Pires and Dean V. Cronin

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Swearing in of Newly Elected Selectmen

Town Clerk, Susana Medeiros, swore in re elected selectmen, Thomas J. Pires.

Reorganization of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Health

E. Bud Whalon declared all offices vacant and called for nominations for Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. Thomas J. Pires nominated E. Bud Whalon. There were no other nominations.

Motion: Thomas J. Pires, seconded: Dean V. Cronin VOTED to appoint E. Bud Whalon as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

Mr. Whalon accepted the position.

E. Bud Whalon called for nominations of Chairman of the Board of Health. Thomas J. Pires nominated Dean V. Cronin. There were no other nominations

Motion: Thomas J. Pires, seconded: E. Bud Whalon VOTED to appoint Dean V. Cronin as Chairman of the Board of Health.

Mr. Cronin accepted the position.

E. Bud Whalon called for nominations for Clerk of the Board of Selectmen. E. Bud Whalon nominated Thomas J. Pires.

Motion: E. Bud Whalon, seconded: Dean V. Cronin VOTED to appoint Thomas J. Pires as Clerk of the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Pires accepted the position.

Approve Minutes

Motion: Dean V. Cronin, seconded: Thomas J. Pires, VOTED to approve meeting minutes of April 4, 2012.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

April 11, 2012

Motion: Dean V. Cronin, seconded: Thomas J. Pires, VOTED to approve meeting minutes of April 4, 2012 – Executive Session.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

Approve Warrants

Motion: Dean V. Cronin, seconded: Thomas J. Pires, VOTED to approve the following warrants:

Warrant #041A-12	Payroll	\$	64,407.71
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Warrant #041B-12	Vendor bills	\$	49,050.44
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Vote: UNANIMOUS

Expenditure Details: The Board has nothing to report at this time.

Correspondence

Screenings and registration for children who will be age 5 before September 1, 2012 will be held the week of May 7, 2012 for the 2012-2013 Kindergarten year.

Bristol-Plymouth Regional Vocation Technical School District awaits for their attorney's opinion and opinion of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education relative to the regional agreement. Information will be provided as it becomes available.

Report of the Personnel Officer

NONE.

Vicious Dog Hearing

Robert Graham of 1541 Old Williams Road, Dighton was requested to attend a hearing regarding a vicious dog attack that occurred on February 21, 2012 involving his 116 lbs. neutered male Neapolitan Mastiff and 10 year old Nicholas Ross, Rehoboth, MA. Thomas J. Pires chaired the meeting.

Mr. Graham has owned the dog for two years, has had no prior instances, is a house trained dog that is restrained by a dog run in the yard. A copy of the rabies certificate was provided. Mr. Graham was not at the residence when the dog bit Nicholas. A Dog Behaviorist evaluated the dog on Sunday, Feb. 26th. No report has been provided. Several requests for the report have been made by the Animal Control Officer. Mr. Graham states that the dog has been removed from the home and now resides in Bridgewater.

The victim's mother, Christine Ross, appeared before the Board and requests to proceed with the hearing although the dog is no longer in town. Mrs. Ross states that her son Nicholas entered the home located on 1541 Old Williams Road, Dighton to get his brother, who was upstairs, when the dog attacked Nicholas resulting in extensive facial injuries including biting off the right side of his upper and lower lip and puncturing his right nostril. At this time, Mrs. Ross requests the dog to be euthanized. Should euthanization not be upheld, Mrs. Ross requests that the animal be micro chipped by a

licensed veterinarian and that the newly adopted owners be notified of the incident, as well as, the Animal Control Officer of the town in which the animal resides.

At this time the Animal Control Officer, Stacy Ferry, does not feel the animal should be euthanized as it appears the animal was protecting the home. The animal was not quarantined because there was no evidence of exposure to rabies, as well as, proof of rabies vaccination was presented. It was noted that the animal's veterinarian, Dr. Bruzzi, Dighton confirms Mrs. Ferry's assessment that the animal should not be euthanized.

At this time, the Board feels that no determination can be made until a report is provided by the Animal Behaviorist.

Motion: Thomas J. Pires, seconded: Dean V. Cronin VOTED to table the matter until a report is received from the Animal Behaviorist.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

Review/Discuss/Act: Resignation of Veteran's Agent

It was deep regret that the Board read a letter of resignation from Veteran's Agent Robert Woods, Jr., effective May 1, 2012. The Board thanked Mr. Woods for his years of service and wished him luck in his future endeavors. Motion: Thomas J. Pires, seconded: Dean V. Cronin VOTED to accept the resignation letter resignation from Veteran's Agent Robert Woods, Jr., effective May 1, 2012.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

Review/Discuss/Act: Vacation Carry Over Request

The Board received a vacation carry over request from Rosaline Grassie, Dighton Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion: Thomas J. Pires, seconded: Dean V. Cronin VOTED to approve Rosaline Grassie of Dighton Zoning Board of Appeals request to carry over up to two weeks vacation time into FY13.

Voted: UNANIMOUSLY

Review/Discuss/Act: Set Annual Town Meeting

The Board discussed setting the Annual Town Meeting Date. Motion: Thomas J. Pires, seconded: Dean V. Cronin VOTED unanimously to set Annual Town Meeting for Tuesday, June 12, 2012 and Wednesday, June 13, 2012 (if required) at 7:00PM at the Dighton Rehoboth Regional High School.

Voted: UNANIMOUSLY

The Board declared that articles to be presented on the warrant must be submitted no later than Thursday, April 26, 2012.

Nancy Goulart, Finance Committee noted that the Finance Committee will be holding a budget meeting on April 23, 2012 at 6:30PM. It was further noted, that requests were made to department heads to reduce various budgeted lines. A final budget meeting to review said reductions will take place on May 7, 2012.

Public Input

Nancy Goulart attended an MMA meeting wherein they discussed MMA's objection to the MA Sustainable Water Management Initiative Framework Summary release by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs on February 3, 2012.

Executive Session (MGL, Ch. 30A, Sec. 21(a) (1))

Motion: Thomas Pires, seconded Dean V. Cronin VOTED to enter into executive session at 8:02PM under the provisions of M.G.L. Ch. 30A, Sec. 21(a) for the purposes of Police Department – Employee Hearing.

Vote:	E. Bud Whalon	AYE
	Thomas Pires	AYE
	Dean V. Cronin	AYE

Motion: Thomas Pires, seconded Dean V. Cronin VOTED to return to open session at 8:37 PM.

Vote:	E. Bud Whalon	AYE
	Thomas Pires	AYE
	Dean V. Cronin	AYE

Motion: Thomas Pires, seconded Dean V. Cronin to adjourn at 8:37 PM.

Vote: UNANIMOUS

Respectfully submitted,
Boards of Selectmen/Health
Kerrie J Easterday, Administrative Assistant

Approved by:

